

AUG 1949

TOP SECRET

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FAR EAST

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1. CHINA: US businessmen in Shanghai wish to leave--US Consul General Shanghai has forwarded a message from the American Chamber of Commerce which expresses the view of responsible US business leaders in that city that their present difficulties are "incomparably more hazardous and disturbing than those faced on 8 December 1941" and that the time for liquidating their affairs and leaving China is overdue. The US business leaders therefore request the Department of State to: (a) intercede with the home offices of US companies operating in China so that positive instructions for evacuation may be issued; (b) arrange for their evacuation from Shanghai and obtain assurances against Nationalist attack; (c) sever relations with the Nationalists, or in any case withhold further support, until US residents in China are no longer targets for Communist reprisal; and (d) order the evacuation now of Americans in Nationalist-held areas to avoid the predicament currently faced by US nationals in Shanghai.

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State Dept. review completed